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The After School Club of America.

"The owner of a rare and valuable plant would spare neither time nor care in acquainting himself with the requirements of that plant. Surely, the child, the rarest of all plants, should have the same consideration."

From the juvenile court, from prisons, from hospitals, from students of social evils, from every department of science devoted to the study of man, comes the warning that in our day, as in no other the world has yet seen, we need to give heed to the nature and spirit of childhood and youth. There is a new principle appearing in law regarding delinquency. When it appears that some adult, by neglect or by design, is responsible for the delinquency of the child, he and not the child shall be made to suffer the penalty. But when the society—you and I—are responsible for the delinquency of the child, who shall put the penalty upon us? It were better a millstone were hung about a man's neck, and that he should be drowned in the depths of the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones. I believe that there is today no greater national need, and no greater civic responsibility resting upon the citizens of America, than the surrounding of children—our future citizens—with the right moral, educational and inspirational influence.

Instinct does not provide the rare common sense and wise knowledge needed to properly nourish the growing child. Today the parents insist on knowing what patient toilers in the field of child welfare have discovered. They say, "Hygiene has taught us how to prevent many physical ills for our children." Character planting points the way to the growth of higher ideals and a more vigorous mental and moral development. Character growth is not the dream of a few clustered enthusiasts. It is the modern version of Solomon's proverb, "We reap what we sow."

Parents demand that the Child Welfare movement be put before them, shaped for every day use.

The After School Club is the answer to that demand. It is the Great Educational Clearing House, where each mother can hand in her problems, her questions, and receive information and inspiration with the least possible expenditure of money, time and strength.

The After School Club of America is an organization of able educators and experts in child-training, for counsel with mothers and teachers, and for wise comradeship with children and youth.

The After School Club has been in existence for several years, and is affiliated with such societies as the National Education Association, Russell Sage Foundation, Department of Child Hygiene, American Civic Association,

Home Economic Association, Columbia University, Southern Association of College Women, and many others. Its prime object is to help all who are interested in the welfare of children to a better understanding of the child nature. The movement grew out of the Child Welfare Congress, held in Washington some years ago, and has met with a quick response from intelligent parents wherever it has been presented. It is financed by men who believe in the possibilities of human nature when wisely directed, and no expense has been spared to bring to its members the world's very best.

The actual work of the Club is necessarily carried on through several departments, of which we shall speak as briefly as possible.

One department, under the supervision of Nathaniel M. Dawson of Philadelphia, is known as Uncle Nat's Department, and the child who is so fortunate as to have a place here, may count himself happy indeed. A man of broad culture, with an intense love for children, Mr. Dawson is ideally fitted for the work he has chosen. To each child member of the Club, he writes a personal letter once every two weeks. Regardless of whether or not the child answers, Uncle Nat's letters never fail. In these letters he discusses books, out-door life, exercise, sport, play, study, current events, moral principles and conduct, &c. He endeavors, with the data furnished at the time when the membership is taken, to stimulate the child along the line of his "shortage," and to strengthen and develop him along the line of his "longage," to bring him into vital relationships with the world about him; to enlarge his capacity, and, in short, to help to get the most out of his life. I have seen some of these letters and they are remarkable. The range of topics is as broad as the range of a child's mind, which reaches from the bottom of the ocean up to the clouds, and even beyond them into the mysteries that we know not now. But this feature is not the one that makes Uncle Nat's letters remarkable; it is the fine sympathy, the genuine understanding of the child nature, the spirit of comradeship and interest (is that the proper word?) that draws a child irrepressibly to his loving heart and convinces him that he has found a friend.

The training of children should begin subjectively before they are born, and objectively the day after they are born. The Mother's Book is the first attempt to help parents by scientific methods in the training of children. It shows:

When to emphasize each trait of character.

Why to do it at the particular time indicated.

How to proceed in order to accomplish the results desired.

Just what is the best material for this purpose out of the wealth of centuries and from all peoples. Right where this material can be quickly and easily found.

Another department is called the Home Counsel Department, and is under the care of Mrs. Grice, who was one of the Board of Directors in the Mothers' Congress. An especially good feature here is the Magazine Bulletin. Each month the best articles on child culture are clipped from the leading magazines and reprinted for use in the Club. Often these articles are condensed, but the magazines from which they are culled are always mentioned, in case one desires to read the entire article.

Another feature is the Story Telling Department that may be used in connection with schools and public libraries.

Small pamphlets discussing all sorts of practical things are sent by Mrs. Grice upon request. Some of these are most excellent, as the titles indicate: "The Punishment that Educates," "The Obstinate Child," "The Cigarette and Youth," "Help for Mothers of Boys," "Adolescence" and many others.

A free circulating library, containing the best books on the subject of child culture, is provided for the use of the members. These books are sent post paid and may be kept for a month.

Repels Attack of Death.

"Five years ago two doctors told me I had only two years to live." This startling statement was made by Stillman Green, Malachite, Col. "They told me I would die with consumption. It was up to me then to try the best lung medicine and I began to use Dr. King's New Discovery. It was well I did, for today I am working and believe I owe my life to this great throat and lung cure that has cheated the grave of another victim." It is folly to suffer with coughs, colds or other throat and lung troubles now. Take the cure that's safest. Price 50 cents and \$1.00. Trial bottle free at Wm. Kipp's Sons.

Pioneer Meeting.

Sept. 8, 1912, is the date of the next annual meeting of the Pioneers of Darke Co., Ohio. Meeting is to be held at the usual place, near the dining hall on the fair grounds at Greenville, O. Members and all others who are interested are expected to be there. Let us have a big turnout and complete the arrangements for the Pioneer hall to be built. Ex-State Senator O. E. Harrison will be the speaker, with a number of others. There will be plenty of music and singing. The program of the afternoon will commence at 1:30 o'clock sharp. Don't forget to come.

COMMITTEE.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

Subscribe for the Journal

New York Fashions.

The woman who must study economy finds great opportunities in present fashions and their husbands will bless the day that seems to be dawning in the vogue for front fastenings.

Patchy Styles

are the rule in the smartest dresses shown just out of their foreign boxes, so why should not Americans follow modes that lend themselves so admirably to make overs and short patterns. Overskirts, real or make-believe, are very smart, and long straight draperies that soften the lines of the tightly fitted skirt lend grace to the figure and are a relief from the overdone skimpy lines that everyone has grown so tired of that they are no longer even shocking, only wearisome and common.

One Piece Frocks.

The one piece frock, which, by



The above designs are by The McCall Company, New York, Designers and Makers of McCall Patterns.

the way, is usually joined at the waist, continues desirable and is an excellent choice if one has a long cover-all coat, or contemplates owning one, otherwise the suit-coat and skirt—is the better choice, for with a change of waists, pretty hat, gloves, boots, &c., this goes almost anywhere and hands down well for harder usage later on.

Very Plain Waists

are most modish and it is well to choose a pattern that permits one to change the gamp and neck fixings easily for cleaning, and to vary the effect. Brocaded silks are newest, but not as apt to be becoming to full figures as plain weaves are, and dark blue or black is a safe color scheme for the economical woman of any age, especially the blue, which is almost always becoming, though with white introduced near the face and a touch of fashionable color contrast anyone can wear black successfully. Black satin or the satin finished crepe known as Charmeuse wears very well,

and makes a dress that will go to "mill or meeting," as the old saying had it.

The Silhouette.

Women who understand the art of dress never lose sight of their outline or silhouette. A full length mirror is often a startling revealer of the awkward hang of a skirt, or wrong poise of the figure. Especially in selecting a hat should every woman see herself full length and only the woman who is sure she can carry it off should attempt anything dashing in headwear.

Hat Shapes.

There are no end of pretty new shapes, many of them differing very little from last year's modes, so that a clever milliner can readily modify and retrim a hat into proper lines, especially now that brims and crowns are more apt than not to be built of contrasting materials, but unless the milliner can be depended upon to give a "different" new look to the hat, it is better to get something absolutely fresh and stylish. Among the so-called "tailored" hats can be found excellent models that wear well and go smartly with almost any outfit. This is particularly true this season when black and white hats are more than ever fashionable, especially black with white trimmings. Plush is the latest hat material, but velvets, especially fancy styles and moires, are in excellent vogue.

Brown is much liked, especially the Havana shade, and taupe—dark gray—very dark greens and blues are all in the running, though black is first favorite, especially combined with white.

VERONA CLARKE.

Glorious News

comes from Dr. J. T. Curtiss, Dwight, Kan. He writes: "I not only have cured bad cases of eczema in my patients with Electric Bitters, but also cured myself by them of the same disease. I feel sure they will benefit any case of eczema." This shows what thousands have proved, that Electric Bitters is a most effective blood purifier. It's an excellent remedy for eczema, tetter, salt rheum, ulcers, boils and running sores. It stimulates liver, kidneys and bowels, expels poisons, helps digestion, builds up the strength. Price 50 cts. Satisfaction guaranteed by Wm. Kipp's Sons.

Rieker-Ludy Reunion.

The fourteenth Rieker and the first Ludy reunion will be held at the Darke county fair grounds on Sunday, Sept. 8, 1912. All relatives and friends are invited to be present, with something to eat, and enjoy the day together.

Roark-McKee Reunion.

The Roark and McKee reunion will be held at the Fair Grounds the second Sunday in September. All connections are invited to come with well filled baskets. By order of

COMMITTEE.

See Clubbing List.

FIFTY BILLIONS FOR FARMERS.

Correct Methods Would Increase Yield of Acres.

THE SUGAR BEET INDUSTRY.

Growing These Beets is the Basis of Scientific Farming and the Most Profitable—Crop Rotation a Great Improver of the Soil.

Between forty and fifty billion dollars a year is what the American farmer should be getting out of his acres instead of the present sum of eight billion, according to the statement of W. K. Winterhalter of San Francisco, a crop expert, who has adopted the unique profession of "consulting agriculturist." "By the exact study of soil and crop possibilities and the application of correct methods of farm management," he declares, "the yield of American farm lands can be multiplied fivefold."

Mr. Winterhalter believes that Americans will be compelled to make both a science and a business of farming in view of the fact that consumption is increasing so much more rapidly than production so far as foodstuffs are concerned. He insists that the day will come when each farming district will have its expert agricultural adviser, a man with the entire chemistry of farming at his fingers' ends, and under such conditions the present farm acreage will yield several times the present production.

Mr. Winterhalter's profession is undoubtedly the rarest in the United States, but he expects it to grow rapidly. He asserts that the consulting agriculturist bears the same relation to the prospective farm purchaser as the mining engineer bears to the prospective mine owner or as the bond expert bears to the prospective investor.

"We are pioneers," explained Mr. Winterhalter, "but the time is soon coming when a man would not so much think of purchasing a large tract of land without getting a professional opinion than he would think of going through an attack of typhoid fever without a doctor. Competition has forced on the farmer the realization that he can no longer buy a piece of land at haphazard, scratch it and secure a decent living. To be sure of his crops he must have expert advice on the quality of the soil and the climate and the nature of the agricultural products he may properly produce."

"Millions of dollars are lost annually through capitalists and farmers ignorantly yielding to the seductions of the land boomers. Sometimes there is an abundance of water, but this merely brings out the alkali, which renders the land useless. Again, the soil proves to be so clayey that the farmers discover it can produce nothing but bricks—not even good bricks. It is the province of the consulting agriculturist to enable the farmer to avoid such hopeless and unproductive lands and to teach him how to rotate his crops and get the best results from his particular tract of soil."

Mr. Winterhalter, who has been an agricultural expert for twenty-two years, has been instrumental in spreading the culture of the sugar beet through the west, not only for its own agricultural value, but because of its great usefulness as a conservator of the soil.

"The sugar beet," he said, "is the basis of scientific farming and the most profitable crop rotation. Its culture raises the standard of intelligence in a farm community. It opens new avenues for labor. It necessitates the use of the most modern farm machinery. Moreover, a great advantage of the sugar beet to the farmer is that it makes him independent of the speculator. He knows the price he will get before he plants. And the beet crop is a great soil improver, owing to the intensive cultivation it requires."

"This is a most important point, because we are rapidly getting to the end of our additional available government and state lands in those sections of the United States where intensified agriculture can be practiced with good profit. Of course there are extensive dry farm areas left, but we do not know how far we can go with these. So far it is most essential that our farmers should learn to get two or three times the present yield from one acre and concentrate on smaller areas. We must get away from the erroneous idea that it takes 100 to 300 acres to support a family. In Europe a family is supported on as little as ten acres."

"The average American farmer does not yet appreciate the benefits of intensive cultivation, but he is rapidly learning. However, he has still much to learn from his European brother about the preparation of land and the care and cultivation of the crop. This is true of the sugar beet crop as well as others. But on the manufacturing side of the sugar beet industry our methods are generally equal or superior to those abroad. The business is younger here, and therefore we have the most modern machinery. And our sugar beet factories have labor saving devices not used in Europe because of the low cost of labor there."

FUTURE FOR FACTORIES.

Sugar Beet Industry, Still in Infancy, Promises Big Things.

That the value of farm lands in Ohio has been increased one-third wherever the cultivation of sugar beets has been introduced and that the average return to the farmer from beet cultivation is several times that from other staple crops is the statement of ex-Congressman Ralph D. Cole of Findlay, O., who recently submitted a report on this subject to the finance committee of the United States senate in connection with the free sugar bill before congress.

"The beet sugar industry in Ohio is merely in its infancy compared with its possibilities of future development," said Mr. Cole. "The first sugar factory in the state was erected at Fremont about eight years ago. Since that time million dollar plants have been put up at Findlay, Paulding, Toledo and Ottawa. This season probably 20,000 acres of sugar beets will be grown in Ohio, bringing a direct return to the farmers of the state of over \$2,000,000. But this represents only a beginning of the possible expansion, since there is room for twenty to thirty more factories, which will represent a capital investment of from \$20,000,000 to \$30,000,000."

"The cost of growing an acre of sugar beets in Ohio varies, of course, with the locality, the size of the farm and the methods of tillage, but from a number of statements obtained the average cost may be placed at about \$30, of which \$18 goes for labor, \$7 for cultivation and harvesting and \$5 for hauling the crop to the factory. As the yield runs from eleven to fifteen tons to the acre, at an average price of \$5 a ton, the farmer's net profit is from \$25 to \$35 an acre after paying all expenses. That, of course, makes it a very profitable crop."

"I think I am safe in saying that the value of farm land has increased 30 per cent wherever sugar beets have been grown in Ohio and that the average net profit per acre from this crop to the farmer is \$30, or twice as much as could be obtained from corn."

"There is a measure of certainty to the farmer in growing sugar beets which is not true of any other crop. Under the contracts made with the farmer the factory takes his beets whether they are delivered or not, provided the nondelivery is not the farmer's fault. Last year the fields were so muddy that it was impossible to go into them and get the beets out, and in Hancock county alone \$20,000 was paid by the factory for undelivered beets."

In summarizing the pertinent features of beet growing in various states the department of agriculture calls attention to beet growing as of peculiar importance to Ohio because of the extensive stock feeding in all parts of the state. Beet pulp either wet or dried has been found to be the finest feed yet discovered for milk cows and for fattening cattle, sheep and other animals. A business of about \$2,000,000 a year has grown up in the sale of dried beet pulp, in which form it can be profitably shipped.

PLANT THAT IMPROVES SOIL.

The Sugar Beet Increases Yield of Other Crops.

How sugar beets improve the fertility of the soil and increase the yield of all crops grown in rotation with them is explained in the National Magazine by Truman G. Palmer, who has spent the past ten years in studying agricultural methods in Europe and America.

"The sugar beet being a deep rooter," says Mr. Palmer, "a prerequisite to its culture is that the soil be stirred to a depth of ten to fourteen inches. The tender beetlet having to undergo the shock of thinning soon after it comes up in order to leave but one beet to a place, it demands a well prepared, mellow seed bed. Gathering the sugar in its leaves from the atmosphere by the aid of the light and storing it up in the roots, it will not thrive if the light is cut off through being shaded by weeds, and their eradication means not only a further stirring of the soil by cultivation and hoeing, but they are removed before going to seed, thus leaving weedless fields for succeeding crops."

Being plowed out in autumn gives an extra fall plowing, which leaves the land in condition to absorb instead of shed the fall and winter rains and store up the moisture for the following season's crop. With the removal of the main root myriads of fibrous roots are broken off and left in the soil to an average of a ton to the acre, and in rotting they not only deposit humus in the lower strata of soil, but leave minute channels through which it becomes aerated and hence fertile. The roots of subsequent crops follow these interstices and draw nutriment from two and three times the depth of soil formerly reached, and hence the farmers double and treble their soil output without increasing their acreage."

Beet Pulp as Cattle Food.

In summarizing the important features of sugar beet growing in various parts of the country the department of agriculture calls attention to its peculiar importance to the middle western states because of the extent to which stock feeding is followed as an industry in this territory. Beet pulp—that is, what remains of the beet after the sugar has been extracted—has been proved to be the finest feed yet discovered for milk cows and for fattening cattle, sheep and other farm animals. This is true whether the pulp is fed in its wet state as it comes from the factory or after being dried. A business of about \$2,000,000 a year has grown up in the sale of dried beet pulp, in which form it can be shipped to any distance.